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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7919
INFO RHMFISS/CDR USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL//SCJ2//
RULGPIA/USCOMSOLANT

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 000772

SIPDIS

STATE FOR INR/R/MR, I/GWHA, WHA, WHA/PDA, WHA/BSC,
WHA/EPSC
CDR USSOCOM FOR J-2 IAD/LAMA

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION; VIRGINIA TECH MASSACRE; 04/20/07; BUENOS
AIRES

11. SUMMARY STATEMENT

The massacre at Virginia Tech remains the most important international story. Leading "Clarín" carries an opinion piece on the political implications of the massacre.

12. OPINION PIECES AND EDITORIALS

- "The dark side"

Claudio Mario Aliscioni, international analyst of leading "Clarín," penned (04/20) "The Virginia nightmare not only reveals the deeply rooted attachment to weapons of millions of inhabitants of the 'deep America,' but also reveals the impotence of the country's leadership, which is increasingly tied by its financial needs for political campaigns and its not always clear commitments with institutions that are an essential part of the problem, like conservative National Rifle Association.

"As long as this organization, which is opposed to arms control policies, is the 'wallet' of Republicans and Democrats, revisiting any policy will be unlikely. This is another dark side of an empire that no longer is what it used to be."

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